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NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE BOARD

IC/81/1018
31 December 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: DDCI and DCI

FROM : Walter Elder
Executive Secretary

SUBJECT : Attendance at 5 January 1981 NFIB Meeting

1. Action Requested: That you consider the various equities involved in inviting Lionel Olmer of the Department of Commerce to attend the 5 January 1982 Board meeting. (C)

2. Background: You have the right to invite anyone you choose. (U)

The Department of Commerce is deeply involved in the COCOM issue both as a policymaker and enforcement agency and as a source of expert knowledge. (C)

On the other hand, the Department of Commerce is not a member of NFIB, and could be considered as an ultimate consumer of the estimate under consideration rather than an intelligence agency engaged in collection, processing and analysis. (C)

Representatives from the Secretary of Defense, the Department of Justice, and the National Security Council are not members of NFIB and are not present when estimates are considered. (U)

Generally, the concept is to avoid the appearance of any pressure by policy agencies in the preparation of the estimate. (C)

Inviting Mr. Olmer rather than Sherman Unger presents internal difficulties which are the primary concern of the Department of Commerce. (C)

3. Recommendation: I am inclined to the view that NFIB should consider estimates without policy representatives in attendance. (U)

WALTER ELDER

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DERIVATIVE CL BY Signer
☐ DECL ☐ REVW ON Dec 87
DERIVED FROM _____

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